CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

William Fields

Type or print name

August 4, 2003 Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No. 7928

RECEIVED

PIPPIG, ET AL.

Art Unit: 1636

APPLICATION NO: 09/715,249

Examiner: Maria Marvich

AUG 0 8 2003

FILED: NOVEMBER 17, 2000

Atty. Docket: 4-31192A

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

FOR: SELECTABLE CELL SURFACE MARKER GENES

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

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Enclosed please find the following:

- a) Reply After Final Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116;
- Declaration of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. §1.131, with Exhibit A; and b)
- c) Postcard receipt.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required by this transmittal letter, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Bldg. 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: August 4, 2003

Respectfully submitted

J. Timothy Meigs Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 38,241 (301) 258-4715